

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 043539
ORIGIN SS-25

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P 180341Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 043539

STADIS////////////////////////////////////
EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, SA

SUBJECT: PROPOSED TRAVEL
.
FOR AMBASSADOR

1. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HAS ASSIGNED TO ERICH F VON MARBOD
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEFENSE SECURITY ASSISTANCE AGENCY, THE JOB
OF COORDINATING DOD SUPPORT FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AIRCRAFT
PACKAGE DURING THE FORTHCOMING PRESENTATIONS TO CONGRESS.
VON MARBOD WILL PLAY KEY DOD ROLE DURING THE CONGRESSIONAL
REVIEW AS HE DID DURING RECENT SUCCESSFUL EFFORT ON AWACS
FOR IRAN.

2. IN PREPARATION FOR THIS ROLE, VON MARBOD WOULD LIKE TO
VISIT SAUDI ARABIA TO GATHER INFORMATION, MEET WITH APPRO-
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PRIATE COUNTRY TEAM AND SAG OFFICIALS, AND TOUR FACILITIES
SUCH AS THE TABUK AIR BASE, DHAHRAN AIR BASE, AND AN OPERA-
TIONAL I-HAWK BATTERY. WE SUPPORT THE VISIT.

3. IF YOU APPROVE VISIT, VON MARBOD WOULD ARRIVE IN DHAHRAN
ON OR ABOUT 25 FEB AND WOULD DEPART SAUDI ARABIA ABOUT 1

MARCH. HE WOULD COORDINATE DETAILS WITH AND PROVIDE EXACT
ITINERARY TO GENERAL CATHEY BY SEPTTEL. VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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